Homes Advisory Board Meeting Minutes April 29, 2008

Members present-Bill Powell, Tamela Hunt, Noel Hanson, Heather Colglazier, Ranee Armstrong, Debbie Sampson, Melanie Brizzi, and Michelle Thomas.

We greeted guest Karen Teliha and Sharon Donahue

Karen spoke of the 5-Star Program thru IDEM. She gave us handouts and a self assessment for the program and gave us a better understanding of what the program is about and trying to achieve.

Sharon spoke about her agency and what they have to offer child care providers and small businesses and non-profit organizations.

Election took place for a new Vice President and a Motion was made to elect Ranee Armstrong and Motion was accepted and a vote was taken and Ranee Armstrong was elected the New Vice President for the Child Care Homes Advisory Board Committee.

Discussion in great length was about the best form of communication and it was agreed on that just simple primary email at this time is the best way to stay in touch and share information with each member of the board. We also talked about the use of the Web and teleconferencing for those that cannot attend the meeting in person. This would be a way to be counted and be part of the discussion and not actually be there, most agreed that it would be worth looking into! There would still be a meeting location for those that want to attend in person.

Noel showed great concern in our efforts to reach our local providers in the areas we are trying to represent and to let them know what our purpose is and what they can do to get their opinions and concerns heard. She suggested on working closer with our RR and get the message out through them, and to maybe do mass mailing on post cards for our individual areas and let them know the different ways to be heard. It was also suggested that we put contact information on the Carefinder Website.

We suggested another letter be sent to those people that want to be a part of the board and that has not come or called and showed anymore interest on being on it. Also everyone agreed that their needs to be two copies of attendance from each meeting so a tally can be kept on those attending.

Everyone in attendance at this meeting received a new updated copy of the changes to the interpretative guidelines for licensed child care homes.

Next Scheduled meetings are July 29, 2008, October 28, 2008 & January 27, 2009.